**AAUW COLORADO STATE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

Minutes for April 19, 2023 6:30-8:30 pm by Zoom

I. Welcome

Call to Order – **President Joan Brown** convened the board at 6:30 pm.

Attendees: Joan Brown, Diane Fuchs, Jill Smith, Susan Brodie, Carolyn

Cooley, Linda Davies, Stormy McDonald, Sue Bodis, Su Ryden, Betty Boyd, Pam Maier

II. **Secretary Pam Maier**’s Minutes of the Feb. 3, 2023 Zoom are accepted as written.

III. **Treasurer Linda Davies** Two State Science Foundation Awards were given out. Two AAUW student members, Ana Villazon, Colorado Springs, and Jennifer Gomez, Aurora, are being sent to the NCCWSL Conference at University of Maryland, College Park this May. They will share their experiences at the Fall Leadership Conference. Linda is their non-participating sponsor and handling the finances and arrangements of their trip.

IV. Officer and Committee Reports

1. **President Joan Brown**’s goal is to gain back members lost during Covid. Loss of Boulder branch is occurring with hopes they join one of our 11 other branches. Joan is writing and editing the CONNECTS e-newsletter. Scott Brown is our AAUW of CO webmaster.
2. **Membership VP Jill Smith** complimented our branch Membership VPs and our supportive Treasurers. She has a one page chart of state and branch membership numbers for the convention packet. AAUW of CO has 764 paid members plus 91 lifetime members, some honorary and some paid. This total of 855 members is the same as last year.
3. **Treasurer/Finance, Linda Davies** The audit of members by Jill and Linda uncovered some unpaid state members and this was resolved. We have 737 members who were Paying Renewal or new members since May of last year. Some Branch PAID-Lifetime members do not pay local dues, it all depends if that branch decides not to charge them.  Same goes for Honorary Life - Nat'l does not charge, our state does not charge per our bylaws but some branches do charge them dues.
4. **Program Coordinators Susan Brodie and Diane Fuchs** thanked all the Aurora team and many state officers for their work since last fall on the April 22, 2023 AAUW of CO convention at the Doubletree in Aurora.
5. **Public Policy Co-Director Su Ryden and Lobby Corps Coordinator Betty Boyd** spoke of the Rep. Jeanne Labuda Memorial today; she had also been a Denver AAUW President. All three reproductive health rights bills passed and were signed by the Governor. AAUW of CO submitted testimony on the assault weapons bill ban but it was killed in committee. Three other gun violence prevention bills have passed. With the state budget passed, many bills will follow. The legislative session ends May 9. June is when plans for our Public Policy Day start. AAUW National Senior Director of Policy & Member Advocacy, Meghan Kissel, meets once a month with all AAUW State Public Policy Chairs.
6. **Communications Coordinator, Joan Brown; Webmaster, Scott Brown;** Susan Brodie will act as Technical Operative along with Carolyn Cooley for the Fall Leadership Conference in 2024. Another person is needed to participate in this support work. A plea will be made at the state convention.
7. **AAUW Funds Director Stormy McDonald** has 245 members who made personal donations to AAUW in 2022. Branch grocery store programs are also a source of funds.

8) **Carolyn Cooley, our new State Manager** is up to date on the MailChimp distribution. National sends her notices of updated data on our members. She doesn’t drop members from our newsletter distribution.

Jill asked if the percentage of members who open our CONNECTS e-newsletter is known. Carolyn shared a 45.8% open rate for the fourth reminder of the convention and a 51% open rate for the April CONNECTS.

9) **InterBranch Council Chair Wanda Schnabel** had 7 branches at their IBC zoom last night. Durango has two national scholarships for NCCWSL; branch paying and Douglas County donated to our NCCWSL recipients. Colorado Science Fair judging went well but better communication is needed with the new Fort Collins AAUW judges. Longmont branch may help next year. 200 middle school girl participants in the Colorado Springs STEAM event, up from 70 previously. Durango branch has 61 members with a 20,000 population. Longmont is reaching out to Boulder by sending their newsletter to members and inviting them to join. One has done so already.

10) **College/Univ Relations Chair Marcy Jung:** There was no report.

11) **DEI Chair Stormy McDonald** gave the report with Eileen Young away. Stormy, Susan and Eileen attend many of the monthly Inclusion & Equity Committee meetings sponsored by AAUW.

The Amache Japanese Internment Camp was discussed in a History Colorado Museum article and one on Hispanic Americans.

12) **Historian Eileen Young:** There was no report.

13) **Bylaws Chair Sue Bodis** shared voting on the AAUW National bylaws changes is continuing until May. Renewals will be the summer priority. Sue expects to know by Fall Leadership Conference how to begin the discussions on how to implement the changes at the state and branch levels. A vote is not needed at our levels unless we make changes at the time of restating the national bylaws. We have three years to institute these AAUW National bylaws changes. We appreciate Sue’s recent CONNECTS article about these structural changes. AAUW National has 170,000 members.

14) Nominating Committee in 2023 was Pam Maier, Stormy McDonald, Diane Fuchs, Bobbie Rubin, Brenda Wolfe, and Diane Norten with Carolyn Cooley stepping down as chair when nominated as Co- President-Elect.

For 2023 the nominating committee acquired candidates for President-Elect: Co-Presidents Elect are Jill Smith and Carolyn Cooley; Program Development Co-Vice Presidents are Susan Brodie and Diane Fuchs; Secretary is Sally Mathewson; Treasurer is Linda Davies; Public Policy Co-Director is Candice Smith.

V. New Business

A. Discussion on changes to the bylaws coming from AAUW National

resulting in changes to State and Branch bylaws. Sue Bodis above.

B. Discussion: What are some things you would like to see changed

in the bylaws? Joan would like to discuss having 5 people instead of 7 on the nominations committee. Would Sue like a committee to help her in 2024? See Sue’s report above.

C. Discussion: Have a committee to help the treasurer with the NCCWSL and Eugenia McClure awards. Our College/University Relations Chair and branch chairs are a good source for these committee members.

Under Stormy, the administrator evolved under the executive board.

D. Election of 2024 Nominating Committee. The two board members and one alternate elected from the board are: Su Ryden, Carolyn Cooley and Betty Boyd as alternate. The three members and one alternate shall be elected at our state convention business meeting on April 22, 2023.

VI. Adjourned by President Joan Brown at 8:30 pm.